

A Presentation to the
Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Committee
Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board

Annual Remedial Actions Update Along Fourmile Branch

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Acronyms

1pCi/L	one picocurie per liter
1pCi/mL	one picocurie per milliliter
40Km	40 kilometers
I-129	Iodine
Cs 137	Cesium-137
mrem/yr.	millirem per year
pH	acidity indicator
Sr-90	Strontium-90
MWMF	Mixed Waste Management Facility
ORWBG	Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SRS	Savannah River Site
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds



Purpose

- To provide the Citizen Advisory Board's Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Committee an update on remediation progress along Fourmile Branch

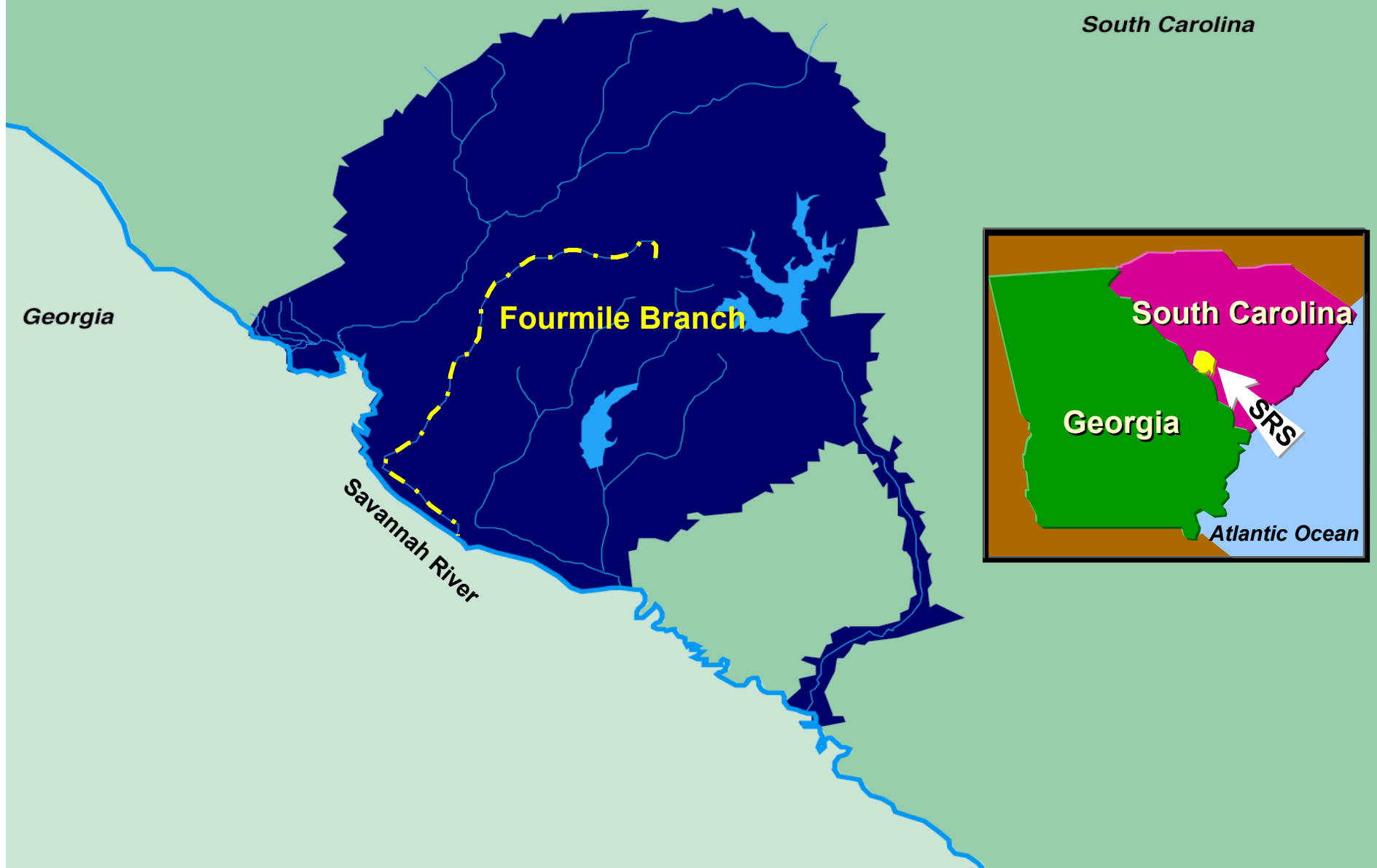


Groundwater and Surface Water Quality Goals

- **Protect the water quality of the Savannah River**
 - **Downstream drinking water source**
 - No downstream drinking water or ecological issues
- **Currently performing three Corrective Actions on Groundwater adjacent to Fourmile Branch**
 - **RCRA Permit Goals include:**
 - 70% reduction in tritium flux to Fourmile Branch (onsite stream)
 - Reduce all other constituents to below standards in Fourmile Branch and seep lines along the Branch



Savannah River Site



Plumes Adjacent to Fourmile Branch

The map displays the Fourmile Branch area with various plumes and corrective actions. Key features include:

- Corrective Action #2:** Indicated by an orange box and a blue arrow pointing to a plume labeled "Tritium, Metals, and Iodine".
- Corrective Action #1:** Indicated by an orange box and a blue arrow pointing to a plume labeled "Tritium and VOCs".
- Corrective Action #3:** Indicated by an orange box and a blue arrow pointing to a plume labeled "Tritium, Metals, and Iodine".
- F Area:** A gray shaded region in the upper center.
- MWMF:** A gray shaded region in the center-right.
- Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground (ORWBG):** A gray shaded region in the lower center.
- H Area:** A gray shaded region in the lower right.
- Fourmile Branch:** A blue line representing the river or stream, flowing from the top left towards the bottom right.

The map also shows contour lines and various data points labeled with numbers and letters (e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100).

Map 12A. GSA Corrective Action Report. Tritium Concentrations in the Upper Aquifer Zone of the Upper Three Runs Aquifer at the GSA, First Quarter 2007

Corrective Action #1

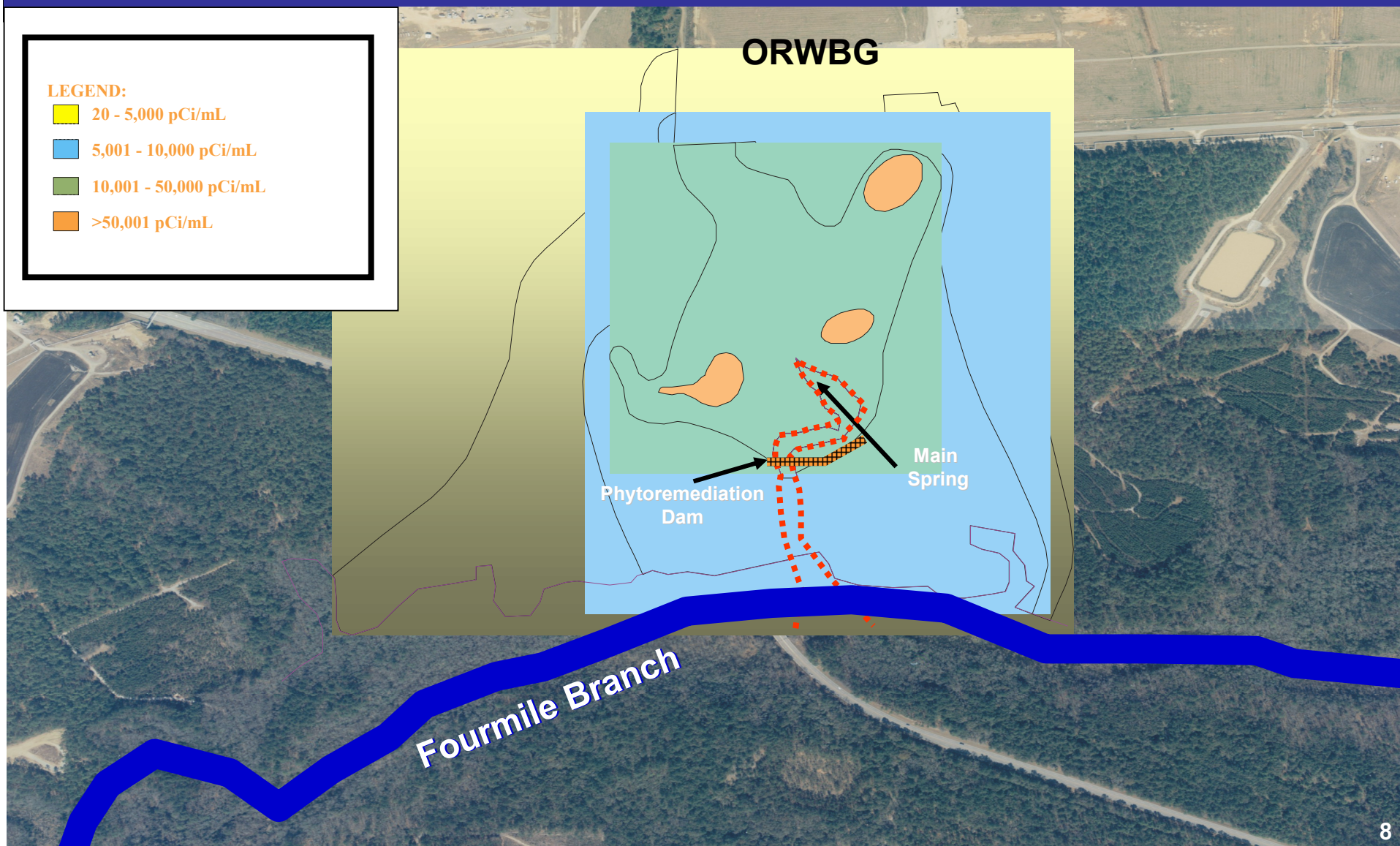
- **Source:**
 - Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground
- **Effect on Fourmile Branch:**
 - Tritium and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) outcropped to surface and flowed to Fourmile Branch
- **Remediation:**
 - 76-acre cap placed on ORWBG to manage rainwater infiltration
 - Water capture (dam) with irrigation
 - Dissipates tritium and VOCs



Southwest Plume

LEGEND:

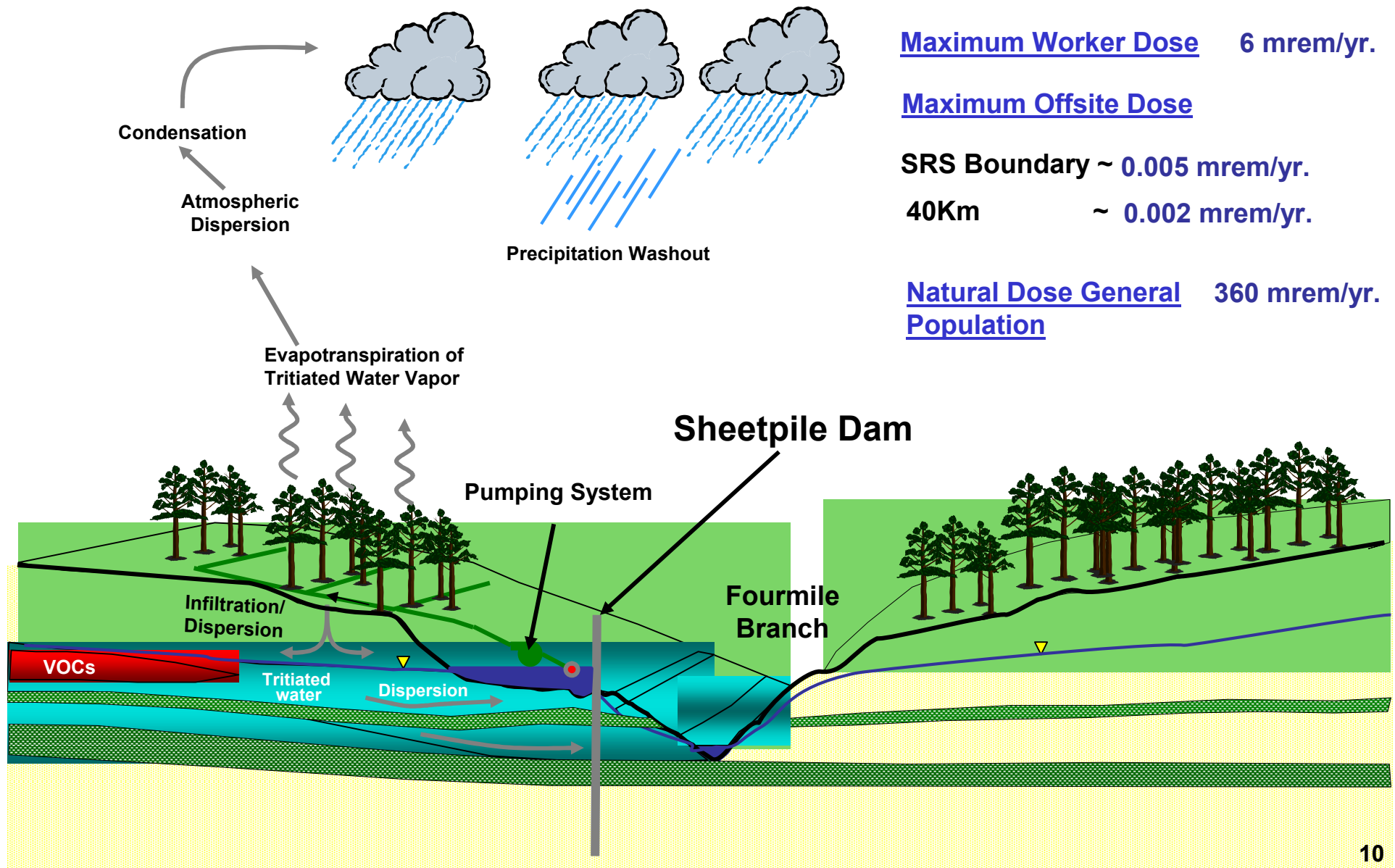
- 20 - 5,000 pCi/mL
- 5,001 - 10,000 pCi/mL
- 10,001 - 50,000 pCi/mL
- >50,001 pCi/mL



Remediation – Capture System



Phytoremediation System



Remediation Effectiveness

- **ORWBG Cap installed August 2007**
- **Phytoremediation System operated since 2000**
- **Concentration of tritium in Fourmile Branch has been reduced approximately 70%; VOCs degraded**
- **No issues with the system have been identified**
- **Irrigation system expansion to improve water management is underway**

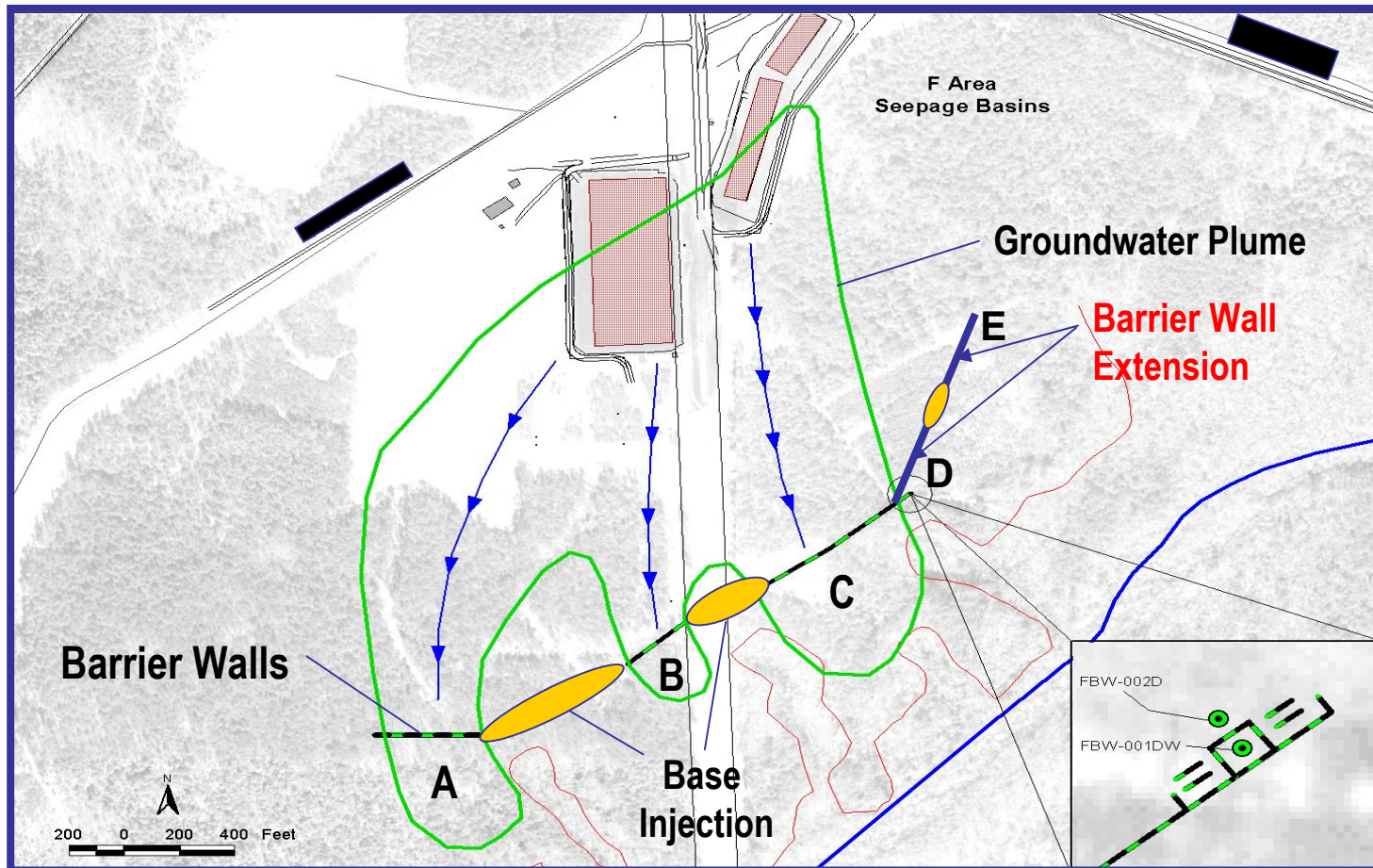


Corrective Actions #2 and #3

- **Source:**
 - F and H Seepage Basins
- **Effect on Fourmile Branch:**
 - Low pH waste waters previously placed in basins resulted in plumes containing radionuclides (metallic and non-metallic)
- **Remediation:**
 - F Base injection – expanding to include H Area
 - F&H Barrier system – expanding system in F Area
 - Silver injection to manage I-129 – development underway / deployment being planned
 - Field testing indicates large reductions (50%) in iodine in the groundwater after treatment



F-Seepage Basin Barrier Extension



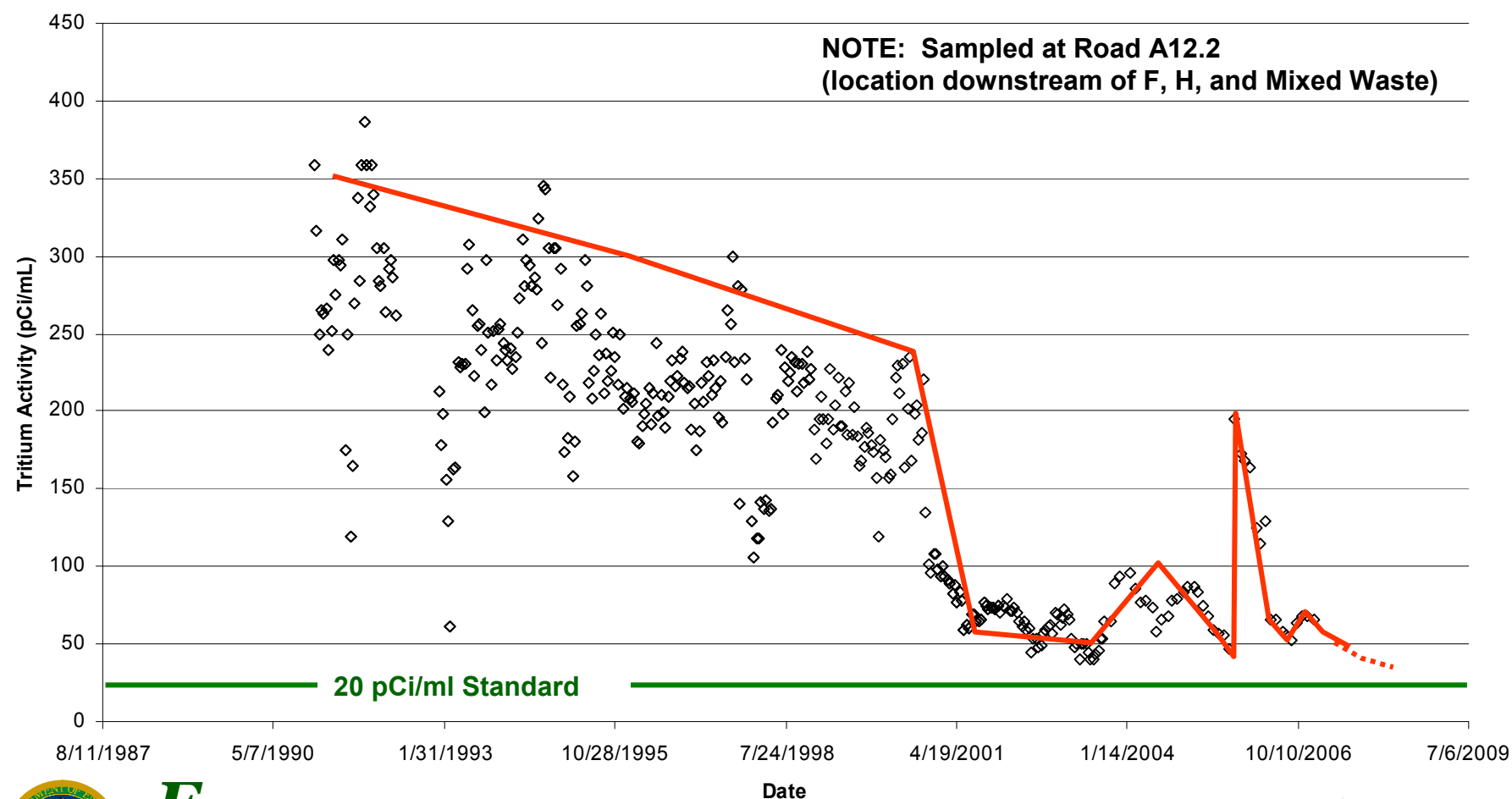


Remediation Effectiveness

- Seepage basins capped early 1990s
- Barrier systems installed 2004, (with base injection at F Barrier)
 - Base Injection – effective at reducing metals in groundwater that effect Fourmile Branch (principally Cs 137 and Sr 90)
 - F/H Barrier Walls - 70% reduction in tritium flux to Fourmile Branch achieved (one of the 2a goals), significant reductions in Sr-90 in the branch
 - Iodine 129 is not treated with base injection, new silver injection technology is proposed
- No issues with the system have been identified



Remedial Effectiveness of Combined Corrective Actions in Tritium Reduction at Fourmile Branch



Conclusions

- Remedial efforts have been extremely effective
- We are capitalizing on opportunities for improvement:
 - Additional base injection
 - Barrier Wall extension
 - Silver injection

